

In fact

For The Millions Who Want a Free Press

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George Seldes, Editor

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Lincoln on Labor

ALL that serves labor serves the nation. All that harms labor is treason to America. No line can be drawn between these two. If any man tells you he loves America yet hates labor, he is a liar. If any man tells you he trusts America yet fears labor, he is a fool. There is no America without labor. (Springfield, Ill, Oct 1 1854.)

Congressional Record

ON Aug 20 Rep John M Coffee, of Washington, leader of the liberal bloc in Congress, gave that body the text of the Nazi-American cartel and political memorandum which IN FACT published exclusively July 13. The entire issue of IN FACT was inserted (Pages A3364-6) including this newsletter's documented charges against Alfred P Sloan of General Motors and Lamont DuPont of the DuPont Empire. It is one of the most sensational documents to appear in the Congressional Record.

Rep Coffee was requested to place IN FACT's document in the Record by the Seattle Industrial Labor Union Council, which asked a Congressional investigation of the 7 Americans who made the deal with Hitler's men. The Council letter, signed A E Harding, sec'y, said in part: "Dear Mr Coffee: Enclosed please find a copy of IN FACT, carrying an exposé of the industrial fifth column in America which plotted with Nazi representatives for the overthrow of democracy in America.

"Most sections of organized labor, together with many other Americans, have long known this to be the case. Now, however, we have documentary evidence to prove it. . . . The individuals mentioned in this article . . . their associates and subalterns . . . are sabotaging our war efforts by sniping at administration policies, by their business-as-usual policy, and by spreading confusion and disunity. . . . In the interests of our country and everything it means to us, we urge the Congressmen from our state to . . . press for an immediate Congressional investigation of the Americans involved in plotting with the Nazis."

Confirmation

THE Nazi deal with the representatives of the DuPont, General Motors, and other cartel interests of America, and several politicians, including a leading Senator, was made late in 1937. Shortly afterwards U S Ambassador to Berlin, the late William E Dodd, whose warnings to the State Dep't on Nazi deals

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"Labor today occupies a position of national and world importance greater than ever before in history. Upon its efforts depends victory or defeat in a world struggle involving, directly or indirectly, the whole human race. We call this labor's war, because its great and basic issue is the right of the working and common people everywhere to enjoy liberty, democracy and the opportunity to work out their destiny as free men and women."—CIO President Philip Murray, Labor Day, 1942.

ALTHOUGH there is still no nationally organized American labor party, Labor Day this year is being celebrated by millions of persons who work for wages with the knowledge that they are playing an important part in the 1942 elections. Several Congressional labor-baiters who could not be saved by the native-Fascist poll tax have been defeated for nomination. Labor forces are organizing for the election of a win-the-war Congress which will also be an anti-Fascist and therefore pro-labor Congress.

Labor alone among the many segments of American society took Vice-President Wallace's declarations of the coming "century of the common man" seriously. The labor press reprinted the speech, unions distributed it in pamphlets, and labor organizations are going into politics to make the Wallace promise come true.

With 11,000,000 or more organized in the AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhoods, U S labor still has a long way to go toward complete organization of the country's entire "reservoir" of 52,000,000 working men and women, but it is further along the road this Labor Day than it has ever been. Under the stress of war the unions not only have held but have increased membership; they have resisted determined attacks by the reactionaries, the attempt to smash the 40-hour week, the lying campaigns in the press and radio, the attempt to freeze wages while living costs mounted and corporation profits soared.

In politics labor is also advancing. Where there is no actual labor party there is action from city and state labor councils which not only have succeeded in driving defeatists and labor-baiters out of the primaries, but forced others on the defensive. No other element is so united in voting for a win-the-war Congress. All this, without any unified political organization of its own and without, as Wendell Willkie said (Look magazine Apr 7), "any real share in the government."

Labor has still to realize, organize and use its full political power—but that latent power which if used next November could sweep every appeaser, and native-Fascist out of Congress, is rapidly becoming the determining influence in all political struggles involving the general welfare of the people. Here is one measure of the distance labor has traveled politically in eight years:

In 1934 the reactionary New York State Economic Council, headed by the native-Fascist Merwin K. Hart, sent out a questionnaire to all candidates for Congress and Legislature on their attitude toward anti-strike legislation. Three-quarters of all those candidates expressed themselves in reply openly as favoring a law to prohibit general or sympathetic strikes, and to make effective picketing impossible. Only 15 per cent were opposed to this anti-labor legislation.

Such self-exposure, from a similar questionnaire, would be unthinkable today, in New York or a dozen other states, where labor is strong, alert and in many cases holds the balance of power. Candidates who announced themselves as anti-labor would invite political annihilation.

In New York State itself, the November elections will provide a substantial demonstration of labor's political power. The local bosses of both major parties having nominated candidates whom labor opposes, the ALP has carried out its previously-announced program, and put a third ticket in the field. Indicated result: election of the isolationist Dewey, with a terrific struggle within the GOP over international issues certain in 1944; plus the discrediting of the equally isolationist and reactionary Farley machine in the Democratic party nationally.

Labor's Record Proves It's All-Out for War

"Free labor will win!" That is the theme and the spirit in which the workers of America celebrate Labor Day this year. We need no longer pledge that free labor will outproduce slave labor. The workers of America are actually DOING it. They have broken every production schedule. They are setting new records every day. They are producing the weapons of war in hitherto unheard of quantities."—AFL President William Green, Labor Day, 1942.

In opposing or supporting all Congressional and local candidates on the primary test of their war stand, labor bases itself on its own record. Its role in the nation's war effort, since Pearl Harbor and before, needs no defense; it merely needs to be stated. Foremost among its many sacrifices was the voluntary waiving of the all-important right to strike. Faced with terrific cuts in real wages as prices mounted, labor has reduced walkouts and stoppages to microscopic proportions (six one-hundredths of one per cent); has stayed on the job and put its reliance on government fact-finding machinery to do it justice.

Labor has accepted the principle of equality of sacrifice—and has made its own sacrifices first. Labor's insistent efforts forced the conversion of the automobile industry to war work. Labor contributed the idea of labor-management production councils, now credited even by employers with an enormous increase in output. Labor is buying bonds, paying higher taxes, contributing most of the men in the armed forces. It is doing the hard and dangerous work—more than 1,500 members of the National Maritime Union, for one instance, have already given their lives, as civilians, on torpedoed ships. In industrial accidents alone 4,353 workers in 23 states were killed in the first half of 1942; the estimate for the full year is that more American workers will be killed in accidents than in all the bomb raid deaths in England since the beginning of the war, and more than 86 times as many will be injured. (Wall St Journal, Aug 4.) Most of these accidents could be prevented, but industry will not spend its profits to save lives.

U S GOV'T ANSWERS ANTI-LABOR LIES IN PRESS, RADIO

THE campaign of lies against labor did not begin with Pearl Harbor; it began 100 years ago with industrialization, and it was organized at the turn of the 20th century by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) which maintains a million dollar fund for the purpose of influencing newspapers, magazines, college professors, school teachers and others in the battle of profits versus democracy.

No portion of the American public has been as nearly 100% for winning the war as labor. Among newspapers there have been traitors; among magazines seditious elements; in Big Business many \$-a-year men who looked after their own corporations, and among the American branches of the Nazi cartels there has been treason. Senator Truman believes Standard Oil was treasonable in its relations with Hitler. Alcoa (Aluminum Corp), Standard Oil, General Motors (controlled by the DuPonts), General Electric and the biggest corporations have been found guilty of failure to cooperate 100% with American defense and war production.

But in about 98% of the press and in the big million-circulation magazines and over the radio the speakers for the NAM, the oil companies, big business and the status quo, have failed to indict the real enemies of the American people and picked out labor as a scapegoat. The columnists such as Westbrook Pegler, Mark Sullivan, Frank Kent, David Lawrence, Thomas Woodlock, Felix Morley, Paul Mallon, and a dozen others, and radio speakers such as Kaltenborn, Boake Carter, Gabriel Heatter and others have all run the range from bias to outright lies against labor. Congressmen such as Leland Ford, Clare Hoffman and similar native-Fascists have not hesitated to use their Congressional immunity to lie about labor, and once when Leland Ford repeated the same lies over NBC network, the CIO got equal time from the Communications Commission for an answer. It is impossible, however, to get equal newspaper space for the nailing of such lies as Pegler is charged with by the CIO News.

The truth about labor in this war, summarized in understatement by the United States Gov't through its War Production Board, is partly told in the circular headed "What is Labor Doing in the War?" printed for free distribution by the U S Gov't Printing Office. The War Production Board is the U S agency most involved in the labor situation and its findings are official and authoritative, and should answer at least the more outrageous falsifiers like Pegler and Kaltenborn. Here is the U S official statement:

QUESTION: Are strikes holding up war production?

ANSWER: No. The records show that labor is cooperating wholeheartedly. Strike idleness in relation to war production during the first quarter of 1942 was 1/15 of the corresponding period of 1941.

QUESTION: What about the charge that the Government is doing nothing about workers being forced to pay exorbitant fees to unions?

ANSWER: The Government and leading labor unions are taking action against such practices. The Government has investigated complaints of this kind and has secured cooperation from unionists correcting any injustices. Any worker

with Standard Oil and other corporations were unheeded, returned to America and warned this country of fascist intrigues.

"A clique of U S industrialists is hell-bent to bring a fascist state to supplant our democratic gov't and is working closely with the fascist regime in Germany and Italy," Ambassador Dodd stated (Federated Press report, Jan 7, 1938). Ambassador Dodd, continued the report, "had plenty of opportunity at his post to witness how close some of America's ruling families are to the Nazi regime. On the very ship that brought him back to this country, a fellow-passenger, who is a prominent executive of one of America's largest financial corporations, told Dodd pointblank that he 'would be ready to take definite action to bring fascism into America,' if Pres Roosevelt continued his progressive policies. Dodd warned that when big American industrialists ignore and defy laws designed for social progress, it is high time for setting up 'a strong defense by all liberal and progressive forces.'"

Corrupt Press (Con't)

CREDIT must be given Life magazine (Aug 24) which published one of the fairest articles in its history regarding labor. The Nat'l Maritime Union (Joe Curran, pres) gets its due credit as one of the most patriotic organizations in America.

Last week Life smeared Detroit labor. This week Time (same owner) again fakes the news about labor. Under heading "Henderson to Workers" it states: "To money-making war workers themselves last week bulky Leon Henderson carried the hell-fire preachments. . . . His text: 1942 farm incomes will top those of 1939 by nearly 75%. Wage earners will get 70% more than in 1939. . . . Such increases for any group must not continue. Wage earners must forego wage increases. . . . Ceilings must be put on farm prices." What Time suppressed was the important part of Henderson's statement: Henderson declared that industry's profits were almost 400% more, and that corporate profits also must be cut to win the war.

The suppression by Time (which lives on industry's profits, via ads) was the more flagrant because Nathan Robertson of PM's Washington bureau had 8 days earlier exposed the daily press for suppressing this same statement. Robertson showed that "even the supposedly impartial Associated Press played the story the way the publishers and advertisers wanted," meaning against the small farmer and against wage earners. America's leading paper, NYTimes, had "industry profits must be cut" in subhead, but nothing in story, indicating news had been suppressed either totally or in late editions. Continued Robertson: "The American public is being deliberately fooled by many of its papers day in and day out. This Henderson story is not an isolated instance by any means. It's on a par with the outrageous assertion by Westbrook Pegler. . . . It's on a par with the way the papers . . . handled the Senate Patent investigation. . . ." (IN FACT's statement that press which takes ad money is 98% corrupt is corroborated by all free and independent publications.)

Act for Harry Bridges

ATTORNEYS for Harry Bridges have filed final petition against Biddle's deportation order of Australian-born Cali-

fornia labor leader who has done more than millions of Americans to help win the war. Citizens Victory Comm for Harry Bridges has been reorganized, needs funds. Address Rev W H Melish, treasurer, Honoré Armstrong, sec'y, 1775 Broadway, NYC.

Indignant Book Readers

THE Book-of-the-Month Club, which has tried to standardize U S public's reading habits, entered the political field this week on the side of the Tories, economic royalists, NAM, who are trying to put over a soak-the-poor tax program.

The club seeks to mobilize its 500,000 members by sending each 5 copies of an article by Harry Scherman which appeared first in the Saturday Evening Post, then in Readers Digest, two publications which have published either pro-fascist or native-fascist propaganda.

Entitled "Invisible Greenbacks," Scherman's piece paints a terrifying picture of inflation, advises everyone to buy war bonds, but demands heavier taxation on the poor and elimination of government expenditures for the welfare of the people.

Peddling the usual nonsense that money in the worker's pocket causes inflation, Scherman says: "In extraordinary times like these, it is a very doubtful service to small income earners not to tax them more heavily."

Scores of indignant Book-of-the-Month club readers have sent Scherman's pamphlet to IN FACT, also letters of protest. The head of the health dep't of an Ohio city has withdrawn from the book club in protest. The Scherman propaganda is exactly the propaganda of the pro-fascist branch of the Nat'l Ass'n of Manufacturers, it's sugar-coated NAM.

Friend of Traitors

HAVING for four years failed to take any action against Fascists and Nazis except supply a soapbox for them, Un-American Chairman Martin Dies recently supplied the President a list of 17,000 names of active Nazis. Twenty months ago (Jan 2 1941) Dies report informed Congress he had "smashed the Nazi movement." Today the FBI is smashing it. CIO News says "Dies lied in '41."

Dies has used his high office to shield and protect fascists today indicted by U S Gov't on charge of sedition, Nat'l Federation for Constitutional Liberties says in letter to Wm Power Maloney of Dep't of Justice, urging grand jury investigation of "the nature of the relationship, if any" between Dies and the 28 alleged seditionists. Federation names Winrod, Viereck, Pelley, James True, Edw James Smythe, declares that "far from exposing the un-American activities of these individuals, Dies repeatedly allowed them to utilize his committee as a forum for airing pro-Axis views. Dies stands accused before the American people of shielding those in the US who foment disunity, undermine national morale, and jeopardize the war effort."

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who believes that he had to pay an exorbitant fee to get or to keep his job should write to the War Production Board and a prompt investigation will be made.

QUESTION: Does labor refuse to work more than 40 hours a week?

ANSWER: No. Seven out of ten workers in war industry today are putting in 48 hours or more every week. In the critical machine-tool industry, workers are putting in from 50 to 70 hours a week. In 4 out of 5 aircraft factories, labor works from 44 to 54 hours weekly. In the Nation's shipyards, nearly 70 percent of the labor force works between 46 and 52 hours a week.

QUESTION: If workers are willing to work a long week, why aren't all war plants working around the clock?

ANSWER: These are the principal reasons why some war plants are not working around the clock:

1. Shortages in critical materials.
2. Many industries have not as yet been fully converted from peace-time to war production.
3. Often bottlenecks develop in war plants and prevent around-the-clock production.

All these problems are being attacked. The fact that every day plants are operating longer hours is proof that solutions are being found.

QUESTION: Don't labor laws prohibit a work week longer than 40 hours?

ANSWER: No. There is no law that prohibits working more than 40 hours a week. The wage-hour law simply provides that workers should be paid at the rate of time and a half for hours over 40 in any week.

For example, Andy Jones, a war worker, earns 70 cents an hour for 40 hours of straight time, or \$28. He works 10 hours overtime and is paid 70 cents straight time for each of these extra hours, or \$7, and 35 cents overtime for each of the 10 hours, or \$3.50. The additional \$10.50 makes his total earnings \$38.50 for 50 hours of work.

QUESTION: Why not get rid of this overtime pay?

ANSWER: Anyone who wants to abolish overtime pay is really urging that \$3.50 be cut from Andy Jones' pay. Andy needs that \$3.50 to help meet rising living costs.

At the same time that food, rent, and living costs are going up, the family income of many workers are going down as breadwinners are called into the armed services.

Workers are as eager as any other Americans to prevent inflation. Fair prices and fair wages form the balance which labor seeks.

QUESTION: What has labor done?

ANSWER: Here are a few examples:

1. One thousand construction workers fought side by side with the Marines at Wake Island.
2. Thousands of workers risk their lives daily to man our merchant ships and tankers on the seven seas.
3. Three billion dollars worth of defense bonds, according to the most conservative estimates, will be bought by the membership of organized labor this year. Among the CIO unions, the Auto Workers already have pledged \$50,000,000; the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, another \$50,000,000; the Textile Workers, \$25,000,000; the Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, \$15,000,000; the Retail Clerks, \$15,000,000; William Green, President of the AFL, already has pledged \$1,000,000,000 from AFL locals.
4. Workers completed the battleship Alabama 9 months ahead of time. At Cleveland, Ohio, even before the war started, workers took only 5 days to rebuild a \$2,200,000 defense foundry wrecked by fire.
5. Labor unions in New York, Philadelphia, and other cities are conducting systematic campaigns among their members, securing volunteer blood donors for Red Cross blood banks.
6. In Washington, D C, more than \$130,000 was contributed to civilian defense when building tradesmen donated a day's pay each. Workers at the Spartan Aircraft Company, Tulsa, Okla, donated their services one Sunday in March for the construction of a naval training plane. Workmen on the new Navy Building at Arlington, Va, gave one and a half day's pay to the Navy Relief Society. To aid Navy relief, workers at a Vallejo, Calif, plant gave a day's pay and raised an additional \$6,300.

American labor is all-out for victory.

FIRST SKIRMISHES FOR WIN-THE-WAR CONGRESS

"... Resolved: That it is the sense of this Victory Committee that the people of Wisconsin must face the elections in a spirit free from partisanship and 'politics-as-usual,' making the one predominant issue of the election campaign the question of wholehearted support for the war and for every military, strategic, diplomatic, and economic measure necessary for victory, including the most aggressive fight against the Fifth column of defeatists at home, no matter where they may be found; and that all other minor issues be subordinated. . . ."—Wisconsin Victory Conference on Social Legislation, April 18-19, 1942, Madison, Wis.

THIS RESOLUTION of a gathering of labor, fraternal, liberal and professional organizations states the issue that will rule in the elections. On that issue labor has fought a great number of skirmishes already, in the primaries and elsewhere, in preparation for the main engagement in November. Following is a quick roundup—not complete, but indicative—of labor's political activities thus far in the campaign for a win-the-war majority in Congress and among local officials.

CLEVELAND—Congressman Martin L Sweeney, wheelhorse of the obstructionist-appeasement bloc, was repudiated in every one of the 329 voting places

in the 20th Congressional District primary. A united victory front of organized labor, business, the press and the local administration did the job. Nazi agent G S Viereck had used Sweeney's speeches as Axis propaganda. Columbus CIO is out to defeat Rep John M Vorys, a defeatist.

BEAUMONT, Tex.—W W Kent, a CIO union member, has been elected county judge in Jefferson county, one of the strongholds of Rep Martin Dies. Kent is a member of Local 23, Oil Workers International Union.

PITTSBURGH—Four obstructionist, anti-labor Congressmen were knocked out in the primaries—Rep Faddis (D); Rich (R); Moser (D) and Jarrett (R)—and a fifth, Garland, was defeated in a special election by Elmer J Holland. Labor is now training its guns on three more, Rep J Roland Kinzer, J William Ditter and James E Van Zandt, all Republicans.

DENVER—Three hundred united labor delegates, from AFL, CIO, Railroad Brotherhoods and farm unions met here and indorsed win-the-war candidates in primaries. Chief planks of their platform: Subordination of all tasks to winning the war; opening of a second front; protection of labor's rights and the building of national unity; indorsement of 7-point war economic program; support of a tax program limiting incomes to \$25,000, against the sales tax.

MISSOURI—The United Labor Comm, organized to speak for unions on all state, county and national political and legislative matters, including 45 CIO and AFL affiliates, will become a permanent body, putting Missouri labor into politics, not as a party, but as an organization working to win the war and defeat appeasers and anti-labor candidates. Committee's basic platform: "Labor has demonstrated over and over again its realization that winning the war against the Axis is the main order of business today. We know that unless the war results in a complete victory for the United Nations, there can be no labor movement, no democracy. We are pledged first and foremost to election of candidates whose support of all measures in support of Pres Roosevelt's war policies is unquestionable." First objective: defeat Republican Rep Walter C Ploeser, anti-laborite.

DETROIT—United Auto Workers, Local 155, passed a resolution condemning Rep Tenerowicz for anti-labor policies, asking his defeat as a measure for national unity. Tenerowicz was accused of supporting Dies, also KKK in Detroit.

NEW YORK—Rep Vito Marcantonio swept all three primaries, Democratic, Republican and American Labor Party, in 20th Congressional district.

TOPEKA, Kan—Senator Clyde M Reed, with two years more to serve, tried for the Republican gubernatorial nomination—being careful not to resign from the Senate, however. Reed had just one plank—"we must curb the unions"—and figured this would make him solid with the farmers, a typically Hitler maneuver. Reed was badly jolted when he polled only one vote in four. At the same time Senator Arthur Capper, backed by the railroad brotherhoods, swept the GOP primaries for his fifth term in the Senate.

BOSTON—Subordinating all issues to the main issue—winning the war—Massachusetts Industrial Union Council overlooked Republican Gov Leverett Saltonstall's spotty labor record and indorsed him for re-election. CIO also indorsed another Republican, Raymond Buell, against Rep A T Treadway, a veteran reactionary. The CIO delegates declared war on Rep Joseph Martin, GOP leader in the House, charging he "has led the Republican party along a course of narrow partisanship and disruption of the war effort and against the welfare of our nation."

ATLANTIC CITY—Launching a fight against anti-labor Congressmen, the executive board of the Int'l Bro of Teamsters (AFL) instructed Pres Daniel J Tobin to "spend such money as is necessary to acquaint the public and especially labor with the records of certain congressmen." Lester Hunt, board spokesman, said: "The campaign probably will be directed against a majority of the Republicans . . . because most of them have voted consistently against labor, against President Roosevelt and against national defense." However, particular mention was made of Rep Howard W Smith (D, Va), Rep Carl Vinson (D, Ga), and Rep Clare Hoffman (R, Mich).

LOS ANGELES—Rep Leland M Ford, anti-labor representative of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce in this overwhelmingly Republican district, can't bear to hear labor get a break occasionally on the air. Ford bitterly attacked Cal Tinney, radio commentator, who frequently exposes anti-labor bunk, and called for a boycott of "Phillies," the 5-cent cigar put out by Tinney's sponsors. Ford has the "re-election jitters," being opposed by Will Rogers Jr, son of the late humorist, now in the army.

NEW HAVEN, Conn—Connecticut's delegation in Congress is 100 per cent anti poll-tax, 90 per cent anti-Dies. Connecticut's Labor's Non-Partisan League is conducting a vigorous campaign, including considerable educational material, on a win-the-war platform. All candidates are being interviewed and their stand, as well as their records, made public. The League plans to take the campaign right to the workers, with election rallies at the shop gates. Highly-industrialized Connecticut is one of the most important states in the war effort. Connecticut labor is always active; when it is not fighting at the polls, it is taking action against labor's enemies in the press and radio.

CHICAGO—A campaign to elect win-the-war congressmen from Illinois has been started by the Illinois Industrial Union Council, which indorsed Raymond S McKeough for US Senate and B S Adamowski for Congressman-at-Large. Both are Democrats.

[More states and cities will report next week]

UNION MEMBERS! ATTENTION

There will be no holiday for most of the American workers this Labor Day. Labor will be on the job turning out the guns, tanks, and planes needed to smash the Axis. It is fitting therefore, that this issue of **IN FACT** be dedicated to Labor. It is Labor that has made, and continues to make the greatest sacrifices to win the war. **BUT, THE PUBLIC DOESN'T KNOW THIS.** Over 98 per cent of the commercial press has maligned and misrepresented Labor. They confuse and lie about Labor's "excessive demands," about huge wages and silk shirts, the 40-hour week, exorbitant initiation fees, of slow-downs, etc. In each case (as published in **IN FACT**), when Labor has challenged the press, the press has been proven to be wrong.

Labor is awakening and demanding that it be given an equal say in the affairs of our nation. And to help decide the future of the people for a "fuller and better life." Now more than ever enlightenment and public action are necessary—for Labor to know its friends . . . and its enemies. That is why Labor needs **IN FACT**. That is why hundreds of unions are subscribing for their shop stewards and executive members. That is why hundreds of union officials and members get their brother members to read and subscribe to **IN FACT**.

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